

Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) said she would do everything possible to make the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station a crown jewel of the U.S. Air Force as she joined with Air Force personnel and other local leaders breaking ground on the Community Activities Center.

The Community Activities Center will house a dining hall with seating for 500 troops and create space for additional leadership functions at the Reserve Station. It will replace two existing buildings, the Falcon Club and NFARS Dining Facility.

Slaughter secured \$9 Million in the FY 2009 Appropriations Bill for the Center. Since 2005, she has helped bring more than \$74 million to the Airbase.

“As the largest employer in Niagara Country, the Niagara Air Base is not only critical to our national security, but vital to the economic well-being of the region. Every dollar that we invest into the facility translates into more jobs and economic opportunity for Western New York,” said Slaughter. “I have been committed to bringing more federal dollars to the base and continuing to strengthen its position within the Armed Forces. I believe we’re well on our way to becoming an indispensable base within the armed services, and the crown jewel of the Air Force.”

Earlier this month Slaughter met with officials from the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station where they discussed an additional \$9.5 million authorization in the National Defense Authorization Act which will go towards the design and planning of a joint operations center.

In 2005, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station was removed from the BRAC list, ensuring its short-term survival. Slaughter worked to keep the base open at the time in order to protect local jobs and preserve a valuable military asset. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is the largest employer in Niagara County

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Center is home to the 914th and 107th Airlift Wings.